

AMELIA COLE AND THE HIDDEN WAR - ISSUE 1 (*Later renamed
AMELIA COLE #7 - THE HIDDEN WAR part 1*)

Written by Adam P. Knave and D. J. Kirkbride

Drawn by Nick Brokenshire

Lettered by Rachel Deering

Color Assist by Ruiz Moreno

PAGE ONE

1/

SPLASH PAGE. A Gotham City sort of night. Amelia and Lemmy are perched on a rooftop. Amelia is wearing a cloak, like the old Protector did, but with the hood tossed further back on her head so we can see her face. It's still on though. Under it she wears loose, functional clothing. Nothing fancy, cargo pants and a shirt. They're both wary, Amelia has the wrench in hand, and it glows softly. Captions scattered throughout, don't need to be stacked, so long as the reading order is obvious.

CAPTION 1 (Amelia): My name is Amelia Cole. I'm this city's Protector now. Got this swell gig a couple months ago, after I beat up the last guy who had it.

CAPTION 2 (Amelia): He basically tried to kill me for being cooler than him, so I'd say he deserved it.

CAPTION 3 (Amelia): But his name was Hector. Hector the Protector. With that title and name combo, I did him a favor.

CAPTION 4 (Amelia): I can't shake the feeling he was following his boss's orders, though. And now that guy, The Magistrate, is **my** boss.

PAGE TWO

1/

Close-up of brooding Amelia.

CAPTION (Amelia): Keep your enemies closer than your friends or whatever. Anyway...

2/

Shot from above and behind Amelia and Lemmy, we see down into a dark corner, under an awning. We can't make out details but two shadowy figures are there.

CAPTION (Amelia): ...Lemmy and I have been trying to find a mugger for a few nights now. He hits this neighborhood a lot but keeps getting away.

3/

Lemmy and Amelia are both mid-action! Lemmy is leaping off the building! Amelia throws a bouncy ball at his back and it bounces back towards her, hitting the roof by her feet, opening a portal.

CAPTION (Amelia): Not this time, punky.

4/

We've shifted to under the awning, where the shadowy figures were. It's a woman with a wand, threatening a little guy, like Louis Tully from Ghostbusters.

LITTLE GUY: Puh-please, I'll give you my wallet -- just don't hurt me!

5/

Lemmy lands HARD. CRAHSBOOM! The mugger woman is reacting to him, her head turned. In front of her is Amelia's other portal though. Amelia leaping straight up from it!

CAPTION 1 (Amelia): Not sure which of us makes the cooler entrance.

CAPTION 2 (Amelia): Lemmy's definitely louder, though.

PAGE THREE

1/

Amelia blasts the wand out of mugger's hand (doesn't destroy it, though)! The victim is shrinking against the wall.

AMELIA: Drop your wand, lame-o!

2/

She helps the little guy back up. In the background, Lemmy has the mugger, pinning her arms behind her back so she can't go for the wand.

AMELIA 1: Hey there, little guy. You all right?

LITTLE GUY 1: Th--thanks, Protector.

AMELIA 2: Call me Amelia.

LITTLE GUY 2: Okay. Thank you, Protector Amelia.

3/

A cute little Corgi comes yapping up to Lemmy.

4/

Amelia kneels down to pet the dog.

AMELIA (to the little guy) 1: Is this your ridiculously cute dog?

LITTLE GUY (points at mugger): No, it was with her.

AMELIA 2: Who takes their pups along for a mugging?

5/

The woman Lemmy holds stirs; she can see her dog.

MUGGER: Yes! Yes, my darling poochie! Now deal with them!

AMELIA: Uhm. Really? Because that dog is as tiny as... something that's tiny. Teensy, even.

6/

The dog starts to smoke and quake!

MUGGER: It's **playtime**!

PAGE FOUR

1/

Big panel of PUPPYZILLA! THE BUILDING-SIZED DOG THAT WALKS LIKE A MONSTER!

PUPPYZILLA (small yap or big and scary -- whichever is funnier looking): Arf!

CAPTION 1 (Amelia): Oh, come on. Seriously?

CAPTION 2 (Amelia): What kinda weirdo sees a little yappy corgi and thinks it'd be awesome to blow it up to stupidly huge sizes?

2/

Amelia blasts Puppyzilla! Understand this thing is BUILDING SIZED. So she blasts like, a leg. The dog doesn't care.

AMELIA: Sorry, puppy, I know this isn't your fault -- but I can't let you trample anybody!

3/

While Lemmy tries to punch another leg, Puppyzilla totally STEPS on Amelia! (Or appears to or is right about to. She doesn't die on this page or anything.)

4/

Amelia uses her wand to create a platform, lifting Puppyzilla's leg off of her. She's struggling.

AMELIA: Harumph! That includes **me**!

CAPTION 1 (Amelia): There was a time in my life I had dignity. A time before the giant monster corgi.

PAGE FIVE

1/

We're outside Otyzburg, the city, and in a barren desert. We see Hector the former Protector. He's in military gear, helmet and all. No more cloak or hood. Still has his goatee, of course. There are other soldiers with him, and they're walking through the desert together, on a mission. Everyone has a wand, though their commanding officer, Captain Kubert, has that staff-wand.

CAPTION (Amelia): I wonder if Hector had days like this...

CAPTION (general location): The Dunes of Forgiveness.

CAPTAIN KUBERT: Second Lieutenant Garza!

2/

We pull back to see that there are seven men and three women (different ethnicities, a few kinda fantasy looking folks and all that. The 5 who will make it to the end of this comic, and get most of the lines are:

- KUBERT: The commanding officer. Gruff, Sgt. Rock-type with a staff wand.
- XUE: Wisecracking younger Asian dude.
- LESH: The doc. A little older, humanoid with purple skin.
- SANZ: Tough lady. Loves a fight.
- PARKER: A young Cyclops with blue hair.

The remaining 5 members can be a variety of ethnicities and fantasy-tropes, but they're basically red shirts. They're all walking through the desert together, on a mission. Hector has his wand. One of the other men, the captain, has a pretty badass staff-wand.

PRIVATE XUE: Ahh Hector, the Old Man's gonna give it to you now.

HECTOR: Captain Kubert?

CAPTION (Hector): There are times I miss the City. Miss my being its Protector... but I made mistakes, was lead astray. I can't change any of that...

3/

The Captain and Hector stand together. The Captain pointing off in the distance at some dunes.

CAPTAIN KUBERT: Garza. Take a few men and scout that hill. The creatures can't hide forever.

HECTOR: Sir.

CAPTION (Hector): ...but I can try to atone. I can do good out here with Omega Company.

PAGE SIX

1/

A group detaches and heads out, Hector in the lead.

CAPTION (Hector) 1: These are people I can depend on. People I can trust.

PRIVATE XUE: Hey Hector, gonna wow us with some superhero moves? Have your cape hiding somewhere?

CAPTION (Hector) 2: Even if some, like Xue here, insist on thinking they're funny.

2/

Back with Puppyzilla! Amelia has Lemmy floating and is throwing him at an abandoned building. Bricks and wood and all are already coming off of the building to meet Lemmy.

CAPTION: Back in the city!

CAPTION (Amelia): Hope this works... !

PAGE SEVEN

1/

More and more building is flowing into Lemmy who is already almost the size of Puppyzilla! GIANT LEMMY! GIANT PUPPY! CAGE MATCH!

CAPTION (Amelia): Worst plan? Or **best** plan?

2/

Smallish panel- The original mugger has woken up and is trying to sneak away. Behind her the Puppyzilla/Lemmy fight is going on. They're trading blows! Amelia is constantly streaming energy to Lemmy to keep him the size he is now!

SFX (*small, could go below the panel if it doesn't fit*): sneak, sneak, sneak

3/

Amelia spins around, spotting the mugger, still shooting energy at Lemmy in all the smoke.

AMELIA: O-oh no you d-don't!

CAPTION (Amelia): Streaming energy to Lemmy's taking more outta me than I thought, but I can't let her get away...

4/

The mugger is wrapped up energy bands by Amelia as she switches the Lemmy energy to her hand and uses the wrench for this more precise maneuver! Amelia is sweating, the strain is REALLY getting to her.

MUGGER (small): hmph!

CAPTION (Amelia, *can be right below panel, as the bottom one is so huge*): Good thing I'm reckless enough to magic without a wand.

5/

PUPPYZILLA VS LEMMY. Just... the rest of the page is those two going at it. It's fun, it's exciting! It's a slugfest between a giant golem and a giant dog monster! Just keep in mind Amelia and the mugger (mugger still tied up) with Amelia really straining, as the fairly refined bands of energy come from her hand, and the now kind of out of control-looking energy to feed Lemmy comes from her hand.

CAPTION (Amelia) 1: Just when you think life holds no more surprises...

CAPTION (Amelia, big?) 2: ...Mecha Lemmy versus Puppyzilla!

PAGE EIGHT

Oh hell! Take this page as well for the fight. A news helicopter is on the scene! People have gathered around and/or running for cover! GO MAD! Splash page if you want it, crazy times, whatever you want. GO MAD, SIR. PUPPYZILLA VS MECHA-LEMMY.

1/ - /4

Silent. (Or random fight sound fx?)

5/

PUPPYZILLA: Grrrr...

PAGE NINE

1/

We have shot from the news chopper, looking down on the fight.

CAPTION 1(Amelia) Never thought I'd think "oh, good" when seeing the cops, but...

CAPTION 2 (Amelia): ...oh, good.

2/

Mecha-Lemmy is struggling with Puppyzilla. They are locked in a kind of wrasslin' move.

3/

Amelia is giving energy to increase Lemmy's strength as we see Officer Freeman is one of the beat cops on the scene.

AMELIA: F--freeman! Take her -- Puppyzilla's owner.

4/

Amelia and Freeman talk, while other cops handcuff the mugger. Amelia has shifted back to feeding energy to Lemmy from her wand. She's still showing incredible strain.

AMELIA: K--keep the people back!

5/

Freeman turns to the other cops, leaving Amelia alone.

FREEMAN: You heard the Protector, officers! Form a perimeter!

6/

The cops form a circle around the action. Wands raised and glowing...

PAGE TEN

1/

The cops all throw up an energy barrier, together, to form a perimeter around the fight!

CAPTION (Amelia): C'mon Lemmy. KO this jumbo corgi before I pass the heck out...

2/

Back at the Dunes of Forgiveness. Hector and Xue and two other men of Omega Company are blasting at a monster with their wands one of them is female, just FYI! It's a big freaky monster! The guys are pinned down shooting.

SANZ: Blasts aren't working!

PARKER: Anyone else have any bright ideas?

3/

Hector leaps from their position, two lances of energy leaping from his wand and forming giant energy spikes.

HECTOR: This worked against the Scavengers of Brick...

4/

He smashes the spikes into the monster as he lands!

5/

The monster smacks Hector with a leg, shrugging off the blow.

CAPTION (Hector): Okay, I might need new tricks.

6/

The monster rears back poised to kill Hector; the blasts of the rest of Omega aren't slowing it down enough!

HECTOR (small, weak): heff...

PAGE ELEVEN

1/

Puppyzilla kicks Lemmy who hits the energy shield! The cops are there.

FREEMAN: Hold the line, men!

2/

Amelia small next to Giant Lemmy still feeding him energy. She looks SPENT.

AMELIA: C'mon, Lemmy. You can do this. You have to. **WE** have to.

3/

Lemmy looks at Amelia softly.

AMELIA: I know he's an innocent puppy, but he's also a monster right now. So...

4/

Mike and George are watching at home on a normal TV not a magical one.

MIKE (big guy, ballcap): They can do this, right, George?

GEORGE 1: Of course they can!

GEORGE 2 (small): I hope.

PAGE TWELVE

1/

Big panel! Lemmy does a patented Kirk-hand clasped over fist double punch, knocking the puppy over!

2/

The cops cheer as the puppy falls, landing next to her owner.

PUPPYZILLA (small): whimper

COP 1: Woo! They did it!

COP 2: Any animal shelters have space for giant dogs?

MUGGER: Don't hurt him anymore! Sparky! Revert!

3/

Puppyzilla starts shrinking to regular size, as Amelia finally lowers her wand, wiping sweat from her brow. She looks exhausted.

AMELIA: Good... heh... good work, Lemmy.

4/

The cops let down the barrier, and animal control is coming in for the dog. Lemmy is starting to shed building, rubble dripping off him as he starts to shrink now that Amelia isn't fueling him anymore. But he's still extra huge right now.

SPARKY: arf!

COP (escorting her): Some people shouldn't own pets...

In the background...

FREEMAN 1: Thanks, Protector.

AMELIA: Amelia, Freeman. C'mon, it's *(koff)* Amelia.

FREEMAN 2: You keep pulling stunts like that, and it's **Protector**. Trust me.

PAGE THIRTEEN

1/

Back at the Dunes, Hector is on the ground and the monster looms...

MONSTER (small sfx): tk tk tk!

2/

...but a giant shockwave is knocking it off its feet and blowing sand!

SFX: FWAP!

3/

We see Captain Kubert, his giant staff wand planted into the sand, glowing wildly. Bits of the shockwave effect are still coming off the tip.

CAPTAIN: Hmph. Trained to be a soldier, not an exterminator.

XUE: Hector, man, any of your superhero moves actually, you know, work?

CAPTION (Hector): I deserved that. Still they're all better than my old boss.

4/

Amelia is facing a cop who is showing her a vision of the Magistrate. It comes off the tip of the cop's wand and the Magistrate is talking to Amelia.

MAGISTRATE: ...and you let that get far too out of hand! Think of all the damage you did with that stupid...

AMELIA: No one died. And **NO ONE** could have predicted... Puppyzilla. Calm down. (*koff*)

5/

Pretty much the same shot except Amelia is raising her wand weakly.

MAGISTRATE: Calm down? **CALM DOWN?!** You listen here you--

AMELIA: All your praise is gonna give me a big head.

6/

Small inset of Amelia zapping the image and it shutting down, basically hanging up on the Magistrate.

AMELIA: Not as satisfying as slamming down a phone, is it?

COP: There's a spell for that.

PAGE FOURTEEN

1/

Freeman and a tired Amelia are talking. Lemmy is slowly shrinking still, but SLOWLY.

FREEMAN 1: He will shrink back to his normal size, right? All the way?

AMELIA: Yeah, but maybe... uh... maybe I should speed up the p-process.

FREEMAN 2: Amelia, are you okay? Maybe you should sit...

2/

At the Dunes. Hector and the Captain stand close, while the guys cluster near the monster.

HECTOR: What was that creature?

KURBERT: That's what we're here to find out. Work out why they're rising and keep them out of the cities.

3/

She starts to use her wand, but the magic is in spurts, weak. She feels woozy; she's swaying a bit on her feet. She's very pale, weak-looking.

AMELIA 1: I'm fine... I'm...

AMELIA 2 (small): Oh... nertz.

4/

Amelia falls, but still too big Lemmy, faster than he looks, catches her.

5/

Insert type panel. Lemmy holds her in his hand like Kong holding Faye Ray. Freeman looks worried! So does Lemmy! Amelia's out cold!

NEXT: WHO WAS THE *FIRST* LEMMY?